Application No.: 10/590,800 Docket No.: 21713-00035-US1

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Please cancel claim 10 without prejudice or disclaimer

Listing of Claims:

- 1.-9. (Cancelled)
- 10. (Cancelled)
- (Currently Amended) A tire tread rubber composition as claimed in claim <u>21+0</u>, wherein said conjugated diene-based rubber gel has a Mooney viscosity ML ₁₊₄ (100°C) of 90 to 140.
- 12. (Currently Amended) A tire tread rubber composition as claimed in claim 21+0, wherein said conjugated diene-based rubber gel includes 48.9 to 98.9% by weight of a conjugated diene monomer unit, 50 to 1% by weight of an aromatic vinyl monomer unit and 0.1 to 1.5% by weight of a polyfunctional vinyl monomer unit.
- 13. (Currently Amended) A tire tread rubber composition as claimed in claim 2140, wherein said rubber composition further contains 10 to 150 parts by weight of carbon black having a nitrogen absorption specific surface area N_2SA of 70 to 350 m²/g and 0 to 150 parts by weight of silica.

14.-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A tire tread rubber composition as elaimed-in-elaim-10, comprising 20 to 95 parts by weight of an aromatic vinyl-conjugated diene copolymer rubber (A), 5 to 50 parts by weight of a conjugated diene-based rubber gel (B) having a toluene swelling index of 16 to 70 and 0 to 50 parts by weight of another diene-based

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rubber (C), wherein the total weight of rubber is 100 parts by weight and wherein the copolymer rubber (A) has a glass transition temperature TgA (°C) of -40°C to -5°C and wherein said TgA and TgB satisfy the following formula (2):

$$0 \le TgA - TgB \le 8 \tag{2}.$$